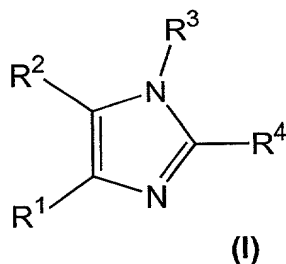


ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a process for preparing tetrasubstituted imidazole derivatives of the general formula (I)

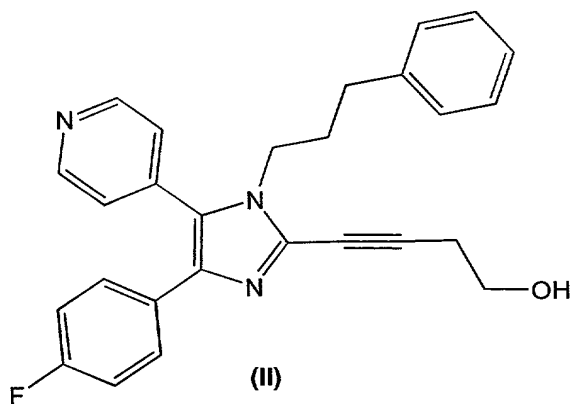


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wherein R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup>, R<sup>3</sup> and R<sup>4</sup> are as defined in the specification below.

The present invention further relates to a process for preparing the compound of formula (II)

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and novel crystalline structures of the compound of formula (II).